

Today's News - Tuesday, August 5, 2014

- ArcSpace brings us eyeful of 10 NYC architectural highlights.
- Farrelly (a Thinker-in-Residence at Deakin University) discusses "designing adaptive spaces for an ageing population" - an approach that "gives a great deal of optimism for the future of inter-generational living" in urban settings.
- Q&A with James Garrison about the applicability of his prototype for post-disaster housing in NYC in a post-war context.
- Russell riffs on Wright in Racine: "It's risky to call any office building a masterwork" - except in the case of the SC Johnson Administration Building and the newly-reopened Research Tower.
- de Manincor gets "behind the bling" of Nouvel/PTW's One Central Park in Sydney: with its "shiny medallion it wears so proudly: its mirrors," and profuse green walls, it makes "a compelling contribution to the city" (it's on his Top 10 list of buildings for 2014).
- Rus cheers the Aspen Art Museum, which opens this coming Saturday "with a slate of exhibitions that will surely allow Shigeru Ban's brilliant edifice to sing" (great pix!).
- Kennicott rides the rails of the DC Metro region's new Silver Line stations that "aim for the worthy goal of city-suburb integration. The potential change to our urban fabric could be enormous," though design flourishes "feel like an earnest but vain effort to accommodate aesthetics on a tight budget."
- Meanwhile, we're ready to hop any of the rails traveling to or from a Top 10 list of best-designed railway stations that are "staggering feats of design and engineering," making them "among the world's most intriguing and awe-inspiring buildings."
- Montréal's Ephemeral Village challenges designers to "appropriate underutilized spaces" - this year's (fab-looking!) pavilions line a promenade along the St. Lawrence River (but they'll be there only until August 16).
- Bates ponders the risks and rewards of architecture competitions in Australia (and elsewhere, we're sure): "Does the current system perpetuate a small cadre of practices winning the vast majority of work? What possibility is there for new, emergent architects to get on the list of approved applicants?"
- Heathcote pens an eloquent tribute to Peter Hall: "he managed what few others have done - to make technocratic town planning intelligible, even interesting - the urbanest of urbanists."
- Clemence talks to Piano about why buildings should "talk to each other," the Whitney and Harvard Art Museums wing, and so much more (great Q&A).
- A spotlight on a Shanghai design atelier that is part of "a clique of talented and adroit Chinese designers who are paving the way to morph China into a creative architectural force."
- Murg cheers Glaser's itsnotwarming.com campaign to call out terms like global warming and climate change "as the clumsy euphemisms they are. The bottom line: It's not warming, it's dying."
- Eyeful of AIA National Healthcare Design Awards winners (great presentation).
- Call for entries (some deadlines loom!): Orange Social Design Award for "ideas that look great and improve life in the city" + 8th Annual London International Creative Competition + eVolo 2015 Skyscraper Competition + NEST: visionary birdhouses.

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10 Architectural Highlights in New York: The city sports some of modern civilization's crowning structural achievements... -- Gehry Partners; Snøhetta; Morphosis; SANAA; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Foster + Partners; Arquitectonica; OMA; Renzo Piano

From 8 to 80: designing adaptive spaces for an ageing population: The approach to building a community where residents across all generations are building a community gives a great deal of optimism for the future of inter-generational living in the middle of the city...The city offers support systems...but as communities we also need to adapt our buildings to encourage new social attitudes. By Lorraine Farrelly/Thinker in Residence at Deakin University -- 8-80Cities.org - The Conversation

Garrison Architects / emergency housing: ...prototype for post-disaster housing...described as "a step forward in the way that cities respond to natural disasters"...Q&A with James Garrison to ask about the applicability of his prototype in post-war contexts as a part of our initiative "Rebuilding Destroyed Cities" - Arabic Gate for Architectural News (Syria)

Under the Lily Pads: Frank Lloyd Wright's SC Johnson Administration Building: It's risky to call any office building a masterwork...Yet Wright's design...endures both because of the innate intelligence of its design and the pride the family-owned company takes in it...the elegant, diminutive and therefore far less useful Research Tower...a spirelike counterpoint...Now that the company has opened two floors to public visits, you can see just how cozy the labs were... By James S. Russell- Wall Street Journal

Behind the bling, Sydney's One Central Park by Ateliers Jean Nouvel and PTW Architects a compelling contribution to the city: There has been a significant amount of hype and not a small dose of controversy over the redevelopment of the site...And so to that shiny medallion [it] wears so proudly: its mirrors...put One Central Park in the Top 10 buildings for 2014, but then again, maybe you won't believe the hype. By John de Manincor/AO: The Architecture Office -- Patrick Blanc [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Mountain Majesty: The Aspen Art Museum reopens with an outside-in update from this year's Pritzker Prize-winning architect Shigeru Ban...scheme wholeheartedly embraces the spectacular setting...opens to the public on August 9 with a slate of exhibitions...that will surely allow Ban's brilliant edifice to sing. By Mayer Rus [slide show]- Architectural Digest

In new Silver Line stations, an emphasis on the functional: Though lacking in flourishes, stations aim for worthy goal of city-suburb integration...The potential change to our urban fabric could be enormous...functionality is the main design principle at work, and many visual details...feel like an earnest but vain effort to accommodate aesthetics on a tight budget...a pleasantly unobtrusive world of concrete and glass that could be anywhere. Washington will be far away and quickly out of mind as you exchange the city lovable for the city livable. By Philip Kennicott [slide show]- Washington Post

The world's 10 best-designed railway stations: ...staggering feats of design and engineering, which make railway stations among the world's most intriguing and awe-inspiring buildings. -- Santiago Calatrava; Maccreanor Lavington; Grimshaw; Zaha Hadid Architects; von Gerkan, Marg and Partners Architects (gmp); John McAslan + Partners (JMP); NL Architects; Karim Rashid; Abalos+Sentkiewicz Arquitectos [images]- DesignCurial (UK)

Montréal's Ephemeral Village/Village Éphémère appropriates underutilized spaces: ...endeavours to provide solutions for how cities can better utilize space and urban design... "Boardwalk", where pavilions line a promenade along the edge of the St. Lawrence River...built by a collective of designers selected from a competition; open until August 16. -- Association du design urbain du Québec/ADUQ (Quebec Association of Urban Design) [images]- sixty7 Architecture Road (Canada)

Architecture competitions are risky ... but we can build on that: The Sydney Opera House story defines the capricious, conflicted nature of architectural design competitions...Does Australia need more competitions...Does the current system perpetuate a small cadre of...practices winning the vast majority of work? ...what possibility is there for new, emergent architects to get on the list of approved applicants? By Donald Bates/LAB Architecture Studio- The Conversation

Sir Peter Hall, man who conceived M25, was most urbane of urbanists: ...pre-eminent urban planner and geographer of his generation...a prolific academic, teacher, writer and, most importantly, communicator...he managed what few others have done – to make technocratic town planning intelligible, even interesting...Britain's most passionate advocate of cities...the urbanest of urbanists. By Edwin Heathcote- Financial Times (UK)

Q&A: Renzo Piano: The architect talks about museum design, the new Whitney, and why buildings should "talk to each other"... "A good building is always telling a story." By Paul Clemence [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Neri&Hu Design and Research Office: Defining modern Chinese architecture and spaces: Eschewing China's copycat culture and her bolder-and-flashier building mantra, a Shanghai design atelier is asserting a modern design language...a clique of talented and adroit Chinese designers...are paving the way to morph China into a creative architectural force. [images]- The Star (Malaysia)

Milton Glaser Versus Global Warming: ...has boiled down "global warming" and "climate change" into a new campaign that calls out these terms as the clumsy euphemisms they are. The bottom line: "It's not warming, it's dying." By Stephanie Murg - itsnotwarming.com - UrBeige

AIA Selects Eight Projects for National Healthcare Design Awards: -- 5G Studio Collaborative; Merge Architects; Ballinger; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Perkins+Will; HKS; GBBN Architects; MASS Design Group [images]- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Call for entries: Orange Social Design Award: Help Us Make Our Cities More Liveable (international): to be bestowed on ideas that look great and improve life in the city; cash prizes; deadline: August 31- Der Spiegel / KulturSPIEGEL (Germany)

Call for entries: 8th Annual London International Creative Competition: many categories, including Architecture, Design (Environmental/Fashion/Graphic/Interior), Drawing/Illustration, Installation; etc.; cash prizes; deadline: August 30- London International Creative Competition (LICC)

Call for entries: eVolo 2015 Skyscraper Competition; cash prizes; early registration deadline: November 18 (submissions due January 27, 2015)- eVolo Magazine

Call for entries: NEST: to showcase visionary birdhouses by architects and designers in support of the National Audubon Society; submit design to be considered for a gallery exhibition and the online auction; deadline: October 15- Richard Levy Gallery (Albuquerque, NM)

ANN Feature: Sociologists Rather than Signature Architects: Q&A with Behnisch Architekten Partners: They pull no punches in discussing the challenges of urban planning, the differences working in Europe and the U.S., architects' social and ethical responsibilities, and what their dream projects would be. By Alexander Gutzmer- ArchNewsNow.com

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